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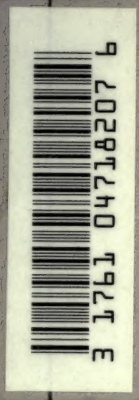
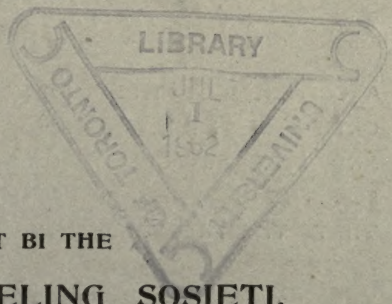


THE PIONEER

OV SIMPLIFIED SPELING.

KONTENTS.

Prinsipal Sur James Donaldson.—Out ov the Mouthz ov our Enemiz.—Problemz that Await Soluushon.—A Kontraast.—India'z Plee tu Englishmen.—Ofishal Rekognishon ov Speling Reform in India.—Noets and Nyuz.—Pres Kutingz.—Editorial Noet.



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SOUNDS AND SIGNS.

BY

ARCHER WILDE.

A CRITICISM OF THE ALPHABET IN ITS ENGLISH USE, ADVOCATING A SIMULTANEOUS REFORM OF SPELLING, ALPHABET, AND TYPE, AS FORMING COLLECTIVELY A SINGLE APPARATUS FOR THE CONVEYANCE OF THOUGHT; IN WHICH IT IS SHOWN THAT THE REQUIREMENTS OF SIMPLICITY, BREVITY, AND DISTINCTNESS CAN BE BEST SATISFIED BY THE USE OF THE ROMAN CAPITALS IN THE FORMS ALREADY EXISTING IN THIS SANS-SERIF TYPE, WITH SIMPLE MODIFICATIONS. FOR EXAMPLE: THE THREE SOUNDS OF O COULD BE DENOTED BY THREE FORMS OF THE LETTER. THUS NOT = not, NOT = nought, AND NOT = note.

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THE PIONEER

OV SIMPLIFIED SPELING.

VOL. IV, NO. 2. AIPRIL 1915.

PRINSIPAL SUR JAMES DONALDSON.

THE kauz ov speling reform haz lost a good frend bi the deth ov wun ov our Vies-Prezidents, Sur James Donaldson, Prinsipal ov St. Andrews Yunivursiti, and that the Sosieti'z los iz shaird bi the edyukaishonal wurld az a hoel maiks it no les greevus. Ov the aij ov Blackie and Shairp, Prinsipal Donaldson reflekted the fienest tradishonz in Scottish edyukaishon. He woz noen az "the frend ov the skuul-maaster," and no les woz he a kairful gardian ov the best interests ov Scotland'z yuth.

Aultho a klasisist ov distinkshon, he had nun ov the bookishnes and frijiditi which sumtiemz akumpani a wait ov klasikal lurning. The oelder naim ov "hyumanist" wood hav wel bekum him, for aul hiz simpathiz wer with the hyuman aspekts ov edyukaishon. It iz tu this karakteristik that we trais hiz interest in speling reform. He poot the chield befor the book, the spirit befor the leter ov the lau.

It woz no meerli pasiv asent which he gaiv tu the gospel ov speling reform. He preecht it insiesivli tu hiz styudents and not long agoe deliverd a karakteristik adres on the subjekt at a meeting ov the British Asoesiaishon.

The kwaint oeld wurdz ov wun ov the furst speling reformerz miet fitingli be aplied tu him. "Now, as ther was a hint given before, He doth his native Toung a good office, who finds a way to spread her abroad, and make her better known to the world." It wer no meen epitaaf for a paitriot and skolar.

OUT OV THE MOUTHZ OV OUR ENEMIZ.

KONSURVATIZM AND ENGLISH SPELING.

OSCAR WILDE poots intu the mouth ov wun ov hiz karakterz a haaf-seerius, haaf-nonsensikal paradoks tu the efekt that wun shood chuuz wun'z frendz for thair good looks, wun'z akwaintansez for thair good karakterz, and wun'z enemiz for thair intelekts. The point ov the paradoks liez in the kloezing wurdz. An intelektyual enemi *iz* a distinkt aset. If it iz from our enemiz that we noe the truuth about ourselvz, then we shood chuuz the enemi with intelekt enuf tu tel us sum truuthz wurth noing.

The "Cologne Gazette" the uther dai publisht an artikl giving amung a good number ov gratyuitus faulshoodz wun or tuu truuthz ov this naityur. The trend ov the artikl iz tu shoe that, houever badli Germany iz beeten in the feeld, she wil stil be aibl tu maintain a surtin syupeerioriti oever England bekauz ov the syupeerior sistem ov edyukaishon. The standerd in English edyukaishon, it asurts, iz veri loe and the acheevments ar trajik, thanks larjli tu the teribli antikwaited speling and the komplikaited muni, waits, and mezherz taiblz. We need not subskrieb tu aul the rieter'z konkluuzhonz, but when he points tu a weeknes which aul our nashonal pried kan not pruuv tu be a strength, it iz shuurli foli tu poosh asied the obvius moral.

We ar skoelded aulso bi the rieter for our konsurvativ and reakshonari habits ov miend. This konsurvativ tendensi, far mor than eni intelektyual shortkuming, iz, wun feerz, the kauz ov our pervursiti with regard tu our sistem ov speling and kounting.

An Infekshus Maladi.

In wun ov hiz charming historikal fantasiz, Kipling maiks a Norman niet sai: "The English ar a boeld peepl. Hiz Saxonz wood laaf and jest with Hugh, and Hugh with them, and this woz marvelus tu me. If eeven the meenest ov them sed that such a thing woz the Kustom ov the Manor, then straitwai wood Hugh and such oeld men ov the Manor az miet be neer forsaik everithing els tu debait the mater. I hav seen them stop the mil with the korn haaf ground, and if the kustom or yusij wer pruuven tu be az it woz sed, whi that woz the end ov it, eeven tho it wer flat against Hugh, hiz wish and komaand. Wunderful!"

"'Ai,' sed Puck, braiking in for the furst tiem. 'The kustom

ov Oeld England woz heer befor yur Norman niets kaim, and it outlaasted them, tho thai faut against it kruel.'

"'Not I,' sed Richard. 'I let the Saxonz goe thair stuborn wai, but when mi oen men-at-armz, Normanz not siks munths in England, stood up and toeld me whot woz the kustom ov the kuntri, *then* I woz angri.'" So our weeknes, if it be a weeknes, iz no nyu thing.

STUMBLING-BLOKS.

The difikulti iz that so meni peepl hav yet tu oepen thair miendz tu the konsepshon that thair kood posibli be anuther and a beter sistem ov speling. Whot haz been must be beter than whot miet be. Mr. Henry Drummond, rieting in the "Durham Chronicle," deplorz anuther kauz ov delai—the stil pouerful inflooens ov Trench and Alford. Truu, thair inflooens egzists in the form ov haizi and iesolaited konsepshonz, and not in eni wel defiend atityud tordz speling; but theez konsepshonz, bi thair veri haizines, ar the mor difikult tu kombat. Mr. Drummond kwoets a mornful litl aksiom ov Bolingbroke tu the efekt that it iz eezier tu get a nyu iedea intu a vurjin miend than tu replais an eroeneus konsepshon bi a korekt wun.

Difikult az the taask iz, houever, it afordz no groundz for despondensi. The nyu stydents ov etimoloji studi not Trench and Alford, but Skeat and Murray. Thair opinionz mai, indeed, taik sum tiem tu penetrait the bulk ov nashonal thaut, but that thai wil be asimilaited in such degree az entierli tu chainj the karakter ov that bulk thair iz no maner ov dout. Meenwhiel, everi jest, houever feebl, against our prezent speling iz a point gaind, anuther nail in the kofin ov a douti adversari.

PROBLEMZ THAT AWAIT SOLUUSHON.

FROM Mr. GUNDRY, ov the Wissa School, Assiut, Upper Egypt, we hav reseevd the foloing veri valyuabl kontribyushon, which we giv in hiz speling:—

Aafter a laps ov too yeerz the main prinsipel ov the S.S.S. iz found standing solid and unshaikabel, but, in its praktikal wurking out, several points hav arizen that stil remain unseteld. I venteur to sumaryz theez in the hoap that a konkloozhon on them may the sooner be reecht, so that our skeem wil be renderd purfekt, and

we shal be then redi tu maik a eunyted asault on the publik inurshia. The folowing ar, I beleev, the cheef kwestshonz in dispeut :—

1. The ambigeuity ov the form *ie*. I hav oanly been aibel to maik wun konvert in this kuntry, and he haz maid oanly wun uther, bekoz the diskrepansy between "simplified" and "sosieti" iz at wuns detekted and a nateural prejoodis kreaited. *y* seemz the best aulturnativ, but it needz a noat. This eus ov *y* duz not preklood its konsonantal eus az in "yard, yes," ets., bekoz the konsonant *y* never hapenz to okur in kombinaishon with the vouel sound heer asynd to it; we shvd never hav to ryt *Yy*. Troo, the prinsipel ov the Sosyety iz epigramatikaly staited—"wun sound, wun simbol"—but moar akeuraitly it wvd be eksprest: "It shvd be posibel to ryt the spoaken wurd when hurd and to pronouns the riten wurd when seen without mistaik, posteulaiting nolej ov the S.S.S. skeem." The dubel eus ov *y* duz not kontraveen this rool. On the uther hand, to obviait too much eus ov *y*, the dygraaf *yu* shvd be replaist by *eu*.

2. *Eu* for *yu* wvd be a grait gain in apeerans. I think no wun haz yet stvd up for eesthetik konsideraishonz, tho theez dezurv a plais amung our prinsipelz—ov koars, subordinait to graiter objekts. If *eu* iz adopted, wurdz lyk O.S. "hideous, instantaneous" must be spelt with the ending *-ius*.

3. The eliminaishon ov dyakritiks. I hav shown, in a leter publisht in THE PIONEER ov laast Joon, hou this kan be efekted.

4. Whether *oo* and *uu* (if the later be retaind) shvd not be chainjd about. Kompairing our S.S. eus ov the simpel vouelz *o* and *u*, the chainj seemz aproapriait.

5. Whether *uu* shvd be retaind at aul. It iz a klumzi form. The revyval ov the eus ov *v* az a vouel wvd meet the difikulty. *Ue* iz aulso availabel if wurdz lyk (O.S.) "cruel, suet," ets., ar spelt "crooel," ets.

6. The silabik *-l* fynal. This seemz to my jujment az grait a monstrosity az eny ov thoaz we ar trying to remoov. Shoorly thair iz a vouel sound hurd befor the *-l*. I hav grait trubel in perswaiding my peupilz (hooz naitiv langwij iz Arabik) *not* to pronouns O.S. "trouble, beetle," ets., az "trubl, beetl." Why maik the difikulty graiter by a fauls simbol? If a silabik *-l*, why not a silabik *-m*, *-n*, *-r*, az "sistm, oepn, sistr"?

7. Whether sum meenz shvd be devyzd to denoat aksent? I think not, az I fynd thair iz no praktikal difikulty in teeching English.

8. Whether the Latin formz *ex-*, *-tion* (*-shon*), *-sion* (*-zhon*) shvd be retaind? On this I hav no pozitiv opinion.

9. The redukshon ov the turminaishonz *-ant*, *-ent* to wun form; aulso *-ans*, *-ens*. "Assistance, existence" (O.S.) from wun stem seem ridikeulus; aulso "pendant, pendent."

10. Turminal formz. (*a*) I wvd ryt "see, bee" (*n.*) in ful, not "se, be"; but the pronounz "me, he, she" and the vurb "be," bekoz theez ar moar often enklitik. Milton roat "hee" when emfatik, "he" when enklitik. So aulso "I" pronoun, but *y* noun (O.S. "eye"). (*b*) *-i* haz a very poor apeerans at the end ov a wurd; *-y* roundz it of beter. To my eer the laast silabel ov "eternity" iz not the vouel sound ov "bit," but that ov "bite" (O.S.), shortend by lak ov aksent. Again I say that sum eesthetik kair wvd help us with the publik hu wil be our jujez. (*c*) Turminal formz for difthongz hav a grait advaantij if thay ar retaind befor an inflekshon. Thus "employz, employd, employing, employment" prezurv the stem unchainjd. Kompair the eus ov the German fiynal *-s* in kompoundz, az "Ausland" (Ausland). Thair ar meny kaisez, too, whair wun wurd with an inflekshon amounts to the saim sound az anuther without, *e.g.* O.S. "paws, pause; days, daze; mews, muse." Theez may be distingwisht az "pawz, pauz; dayz, daiz; mewz, meuz."

The proper turminal form iz euzheualy obvius, but a difikulty aryzez in wurdz ov the typ ov "show" (O.S.). Under this heding I fynd at leest a duzen pairz ov this kynd, *e.g.* (O.S.) "rows, rose; grown, groan; owèd, ode." *Ow* may perhaps be euzd for the turminal ov *-o*, but it iz raather remoat from *oa* (or *oe*), and it nateuraly belongz to *-ou*, to distinguish (O.S.) "brows" and "browse," tho this iz aulmoast the oanly instans. If *-ou* klaimz *-ow*, I kan sujest for *-oa* nuthing beter than *-oh* or *-oe*. Thus: noun "groan," partisipel "grohn" or "groen," from the vurb "groe."

Aul theez points I wood leev to soopeerior wizdom, but I beleev that meny memberz shair my dezyr that thay shvd be soon desyded. Thairfor I venteur to lay them in a groop befor eu.

[We agree with Mr. Gundry that it wood be a good thing tu setl sum ov the points he menshonz. Thai mai be arainjd under thre hedingz:—

(1) *Reprezentaishon ov Strest Vouelz.*

y in plais ov *ie*, but retaining *y* with konsonantal valyu in *yes*, *yung*, ets.

eu in plais ov *yu*.

oo and *uu*. Heer Mr. Gundry sujests that *oo* shood reprezent the long vouel and *uu* (or, preferabli, *v* or *ue*) the short vouel. Whiel we hav never been much atacht tu the diegraaf *uu*, we duu not kair much for the propoezd substityuts. Thair iz much tu be sed for kuting the Gordian not bi yuzing *oo* for the long az wel az the short vouel.

(2) *Reprezentaishon ov Unstrest Vouelz.*

-ant, *-ent*, *-ans*, *-ens*, *-ius*, *-eus*, tu be blended intu *-ent*, *-ens*, *-ius* respektivli. A good meni uther endingz miet hav been menshond, *e.g.* *-ial*, *-eal*, *-iar*, *-ear*, *-ary*, *-ery*, *-ard*, *-erd*, *-ast*, *-est*; see Archer and Rippmann'z *Proposals*, pp. 50, 51, 56.

Silabik *l*. Whiel Mr. Gundry iz probabli riet in thinking that "taibel," ets., iz preferabl tu "taibl," ets., it must be pointed out that az a ruul we duu heer pronouns silabik *l*, just az we pronouns silabik *m* or *n* in uther wurdz. If he wil konsider hou he artikyulaits such a wurd az "trublz," he wil probabli fiend that hiz tung tuchez the ruuf ov the mouth befor the lips ar separaited, which prekluudz the posibiliti ov an interveening vouel. But az we riet "oepen" and not "oepn," it wil be beter tu spel the *-le* wurdz with *-el*; the *-le* iz reali a French speling, liek the *-re* in "centre."

(3) *Turminal Formz.*

-y for *-i*, *-ay* for *-ai*, *-oy* for *-oi*. The feeling that *-y* maiks a mor satisfaktori ending than *-i* haz been eksprest befor, and *-y* yust tu be riten in S.S. until a voet ov the memberz shoed a distinkt preferens for *-i*. Hou duz the iedea ariez? Iz it not a kwestion ov habit? In medieeval tiemz it surtinli egzisted in French and German az wel az in English; but the French and the Germanz hav given up rieting *toy*, *fays*, *sey*, *meyn*. And wil it not land Mr. Gundry in the veri difikulti he points out in "simplified" and "sosieti"? For it maiks him riet "sosyety" whair the *y* haz tuu diferent valyuz; and, az he aulso yuzez it in "yes," he haz thre valyuz for *y*. Hiz analisis ov the laast vouel sound ov "eternity" iz raather serpriezing. It iz truu that it vairiz in valyu between a luusli artikyulaited *i* and *e*, but kan it be regarded az the ekwivalent ov the difthong in "biet"? The riemz ov our poëts duu not klinch the mater. Keats riemz "Thessaly" and "die," but aulso "company" and "glee"; Tennyson, "Italy" and "me," but aulso "charity" and "cry."

Retenshon ov turminal formz befor inflekshonz.

This maiks it possibl tu distingwish "days" and "daze,"

"paws" and "pause," ets. It iz an atemt tu redyus a surtin number ov homonimz, and the kwestion simpli iz whether the departyur from the "wun sound wun sien" prinsipl iz justified bi eni rezulting gain. Duu the reederz ov THE PIONEER fiend that the homonimz giv them trubl? Iz it nesesari or dezierabl tu teech our children pairz ov diegraafs—*ai* and *ay*, *oi* and *oy*, *eu* and *ew*, *ou* and *ow*, *oe* (or *oa*) and *oh* (or *oe*)? And, if *-ment* in "employment" iz an "inflekshon," whair ar we tu drau the lien? Hou kan we prevent children from rieting "rayment"?

Turminal formz in monosilablz.

We ar inkliend tu defend the shortening ov "he, we, mi, no, so," ets., on akount ov the freekwensi ov theez wurdz, not bekauz ov eni "enklitik" karakter inheerent in them. "Me, he, she, be" aul hav strong az wel az week formz, liek "woz, kood, shal," ets.; and when a wurd haz several valyuz we prefur, az a jeneral prinsipl, tu reprezent the strong form. We duu not shorten "see, bee" to "se, be," bekauz ov the inflekted formz, *e.g.*, "seez, beez."

Tu the points menshond bi Mr. Gundry we shood liek tu ad the kwestion whether thair iz eni gain in distingwishing *ur* and *er*, yuzing them in strest and unstrest pozishonz. We shood be glad if our reederz wood eksperiment for us bi rieting in Simplified Speling with the foloing modifikaishonz: (1) *y* for *ie*, *eu* for *yu*, *oo* for the long and the short sound, and *er* in strest and unstrest pozishonz; and (2) *-el* for *-l*, *-ent* for *-ant*, *-ent*, ets.; *-ius* for *-eus*, *-ius*, ets.

We shood aulso liek tu hav thair opinion about the "turminal vouelz."—ED. PIONEER.]

A KONTRAAST.

THE ITALIAN CHIELD AND THE ENGLISH CHIELD.

(From *The Montessori Method.*)

"INTENSLI atentiv, he sits woching the boks, muuving hiz lips aulmoest imperseptibli, and taiking wun bi wun the nesesari leterz, *rairli komiting an eror in speling.* The muuvment ov the lips reveelz the fakt that he repeets tu himself an infinit number ov tiemz the wurdz *huuz soundz he iz translaiting intu sienz.*"

"Riten langwij duz not develop gradyuali, but in an eksploesiv wai; that iz, the chield kan riet *eni wurd.*" [In reeding] "Thair iz

no kwestion ov begining with wurdz that ar eezi or difikult, for the chield aulredi noez hou tu reed *eni wurd*. That iz, he noez hou tu reed the soundz which kompoez it."

" Children ov for yeerz, **aafter thai hav been in skuul for tuu munths and a haaf,** kan riet *eni wurd* from diktaishon."

(From Mrs. D. C. Fisher'z *A Montessori Mother.*)

" Aafter this, the litl Italian chield, hapi in the pozeshon ov a fonetikali spelt langwij, haz an eezier tiem than our English-speeking children, hu begin then and thair thair lieflong strugl with the insanitiz ov English speling."

(From the " Teachers' Guild Quarterly," March 1915.)

Befor a meeting ov the " Committee on Psychological Research in Schools," Mr. B. Dumville gaiv an akount ov sum eksperiments on urli staijez ov teeching reeding, maid in thre larj infant skuulz under the London County Council. The objekt woz tu kompair the valyu ov the " Phonic " and " Look-and-Say " methodz, with which we ar not heer konsurnd. We wish tu drau atenshon tu the rezults.

At the end ov a yeer'z teeching the children wer given the foloing sentensez tu reed :—

" Tom was a good boy, and his father gave him a penny. His mother was so glad that she gave him a penny, too. And, when his big sister saw him, she gave him one as well. How many pennies did he have then ? "

Mr. Dumville sez : " Whenever a mistaik woz maid I korekted the chield and krost the wurd thru on mi oen kopi ov the pees. When the chield faild tu sai enithing, I toeld him the wurd so that he kood proseed, and krost the wurd thru az befor." The averij tiem taiken woz 2 minits 25 sekondz ; the averij number ov wurdz red korektli, 27 out ov 44 ; the persentij ov korekt aanserz tu the kwestion, 36.

Analiez the 44 wurdz ov the test and yu wil fiend that thair ar oenli 32 separait wurdz, sins " was, she, penny " okur twies ; " a, his, gave," thre tiemz ; " him," for tiemz. It is reezonabl tu asyum that " was, she, a, his, him " wer, az a ruul, amung the wurdz korektli red. If we dedukt theez, the proporshon ov wurdz korektli red bekumz 13 out ov 30. The sloe rait ov reeding sufiesez tu eksplain the smaul number ov korekt aanserz, and aulso shoez that the mistaiks wer not dyu tu the children being hurid.

This seemz ţu us a deplorabl rezult ov a yeer'z teeching. Tu whot iz it dyu ?

Konsider the test sentensez wuns mor.

The leter *a* haz fiev diferent valyuz in "was, father, gave, glad, many" (S.S. "woz, f*aa*ther, g*ai*v, gl*a*d, m*e*ni").

The leter *o* haz thre valyuz in "Tom," in "so," and in "mother, one."

The leter *e* haz tuu valyuz in "when, well, then, penny," and in "he, she," and iz myut in "have, gave, one."

The diegraaf *oo* iz a short sound in "good" and a long wun in "too."

The leter *s* haz tuu valyuz in "his, was, as, pennies," and in "so, sister."

Thair iz needles dubling ov leterz in "well, penny."

The puur litl miets ar begining thair lieflong strugl with the insanitiz ov English speling.

INDIA'Z PLEE TU ENGLISHMEN.

AN EDYUKAISHONAL HANDIKAP.

Bi Prof. MARK HUNTER, Madras Kolej.

FOR reezonz which hav been freekwentli emfasiezd bi this Sosieti, a reformd speling ov English wood be a speshal buun tu India, and wood, beyond dout, bi meni thousandz ov our feloe-subjekts in that kuntri be apreeshiaited and welkumd az such.

In India aul edyukaishon, eksept the moest elementari, iz imparted thru the meedium ov English—a forin langwij. It shood be obvius hou graitli the Indian chield'z taask wood be lietend, hou much hiz proegres in the nolej ov the English speech, and ov aul the uther thingz tu which a nolej ov that speech iz tu him the oenli entrans, wood be fasilitaited wer the laibor ov lurning tu reed and riet English shortend, simplified, and rashonaliezd. Az a mienor, tho a veri real advaantij, he wood lurn tu speek English beter. The pronunsiaishon ov English bi Indianz iz veri far from korekt, houever we chuuz tu defien korektnes, and ov this defektiv pronunsiaishon the inkonsistensiz ov our speling ar at leest a kontribyutari kauz. A good meni prevalent erorz, which ar not dyu tu the substityushon ov distinktivli Indian for distinktivli English soundz, ar, indeed, direktli traisabl tu this sors.

In the inishal staijez ov hiz edyukaishon the unfortyunait Indian chield iz dubli handikapt. In lurning tu reed hiz oen muther tung he iz, in the vaast majoriti ov kaisez, konfrunted with a skript which, tho fairli fonetik and kwiet konsistent, iz, bi reezon ov the syuperfloous welth ov simbolz emploid, singyularli komplikaited and difikult. When the English klaas iz enterd, kondishonz ar revurst without being at aul impruuvd. The simbolz ar eezi, kleer, and simpl, but thair iz a moest bewildering inkonsistensi in the emploiment ov them.

On boeth siedz, in the interests ov India, thair iz mor than ruum for reform. The dezierabiliti ov a komon skript for the grait divursiti ov Indian langwijez iz aulredi felt, and the adopshon ov such a skript advokaited bi meni ov the mor thautful leederz ov Indian opinion. Unfortyunaitli, veri fyu ov theez ar az yet aibl tu perseev that the oenli skript reali kaipabl ov discharjing the funkshonz

rekwierd iz the Roman skript, and the cheef reezon ov this inkapasiti—apart, that iz, from prejoodisez and preedilekshonz ov a syudo-paitriotik and sentimental naityur—iz for the prezent diskushon not without signifikans. The grait majoriti ov edyukaited Indianz ar familiar with the Roman skript oenli az asoeshiaited with English, and thai natyurali, tho eroeneusli, estimait the fonetik adekwasi ov the skript bi its groes misyus in kurent English speling. The deefekts ov our orthografi ar tu Indianz palpabl and glairing, and it iz not wunderful that thai deklien tu admit advaantijez in a skript in which theez deefekts, az thai fansi, ar inheerent, oever skripts which, tho in fakt intrinsikali much infeerior, ar surtinli not so misaplied.

Heer, then, iz anuther bad rezult ov our bad speling, anuther dis-survis renderd tu hyumaniti. It iz bloking the wai in India tu a reali grait reform—a reform which wood be fruutful ov good in meni waiz and in meni direkshonz; which wood, amungst uther thingz, akselerait the difyuzhon ov edyukaishon amungst vaast masez ov hyuman beingz nou iliterait.

Unintelijent Memoriezing.

Much az a reformd speling wood help England, it wood in India, I beleev, akomplish mor; at eni rait, it wood hav mor vairid and, in sum respekts, mor far-reeching rezults. At the saim tiem the harm imeediaitli dun tu the chield bi an irashonal sistem ov speling iz in India eeven mor tu be deplord than in England, for it aksentyuaits an abyus in edyukaishon mor rampant and les kounterakted bi uther inflooensez in India than heer—I meen the mischif ov unintelijent memoriezing.

Hapili a thoroegoing reform ov English speling, such az iz propoezd bi our Sosieti, wood in India and from Indianz meet with no real opozishon. On the uther hand, it wood be welkumd with an aulmoest yunanimus apruuval. The hardship tu children, the hindrans tu edyukaishon for which our kurent speling iz responsibl, ar bi Indianz at wuns and fuli rekogniezd; for, az the Indian chield beginz tu reed English laiter in lief than our oen children duu, the gratyuitus difikultiz which hav then tu be sermounted ar bi the adult not so eezili forgoten. Moroever, Indianz ar not trubld bi eni sentimental atachment tu the oeld speling. The "eesthetik argyument" apeelz tu them skairsli at aul. The "etimolojikal argyument" kan not obviusli be graitli priezd bi thoez hu never lurnt the elements ov Latin at skuul. But the etimolojikal objekshon haz tu the inosent an air ov lurning and siëns, and wun duz okaizhonali heer an Indian advaans it; but this and the uther stok objekshonz with which we ar so familiar heer, if rezorted tu at aul bi Indianz, ar not, az with us, meerli preteksts haistili seezd, but obstinaitli klung tu az sum sort ov protekshon against a thing which we hapen unintelijentli tu disliek. When the unsoundnes ov the stok argyuments iz demonstraited, the Indian rezienz them without regret. He haz no afekshon for the kurent orthografi and he iz not sloe tu rekogniez hiz interest in reform. It iz skairsli an egzajeraishon tu sai that, so far az the edyukaited Indian iz konsurnd, wuns the kais and form ar staited, konvurshon imeediaitli foloez.

Such, at leest, iz our ekspeeriens in Suthern India, whair a braanch ov the Simplified Speling Sosieti haz been establisht. We hav prezented our kais in the yuzhyual wai, bi publik meetingz, bi nyuspaiper artiklz, and bi the distribyushon ov the Sosieti'z literatyur, and from Indianz we hav met with no sort ov opozishon. Ov kors, we shood hav been beter pleezd with a larjer mezher ov aktiv suport than we reseev; but, eeven in this respekt, prezent kondishonz being rekond with and the ordinari infurmiti ov hyuman naityur dyuli aloud for, we hav not dun so badli. Kwiet a respektabl proporshon ov teecherz, and a good meni hu ar not teecherz, hav joind the Sosieti, and, az I hav indikaited, for wun Indian hu joinz us thair ar meni hu thuroeli apruuv ov us and wish us wel. When the tiem kumz for konvurting prinsipl intu praktis we shal fiend, I maik no dout, edyukaited India solid for thuroegoing reform.

India'z Welkum.

The atityud ov the English in India tordz speling reform iz much the saim az that ov English peepl heer, with this important diferens—that, whiel we hav

sekyurd enerjetik and zelus suport from a good meni Englishmen in India (for egzaampl, a konsiderabl number ov English edyukaishonists, inkluuding meni ov the profesorz in leeding kolejez, hav joind us), we hav met with nuthing in the wai ov aktiv opozishon. The leeding nyuspaiper in South India (the "Madras Mail") jenerusli permited us tu spred ourselvz out oever meni kolumz, and, apart from sum veri mield editorial disapruuval, no wun woz found tu sai us nai. Sumbodi roet a leter ov thre lienz or so kontaining a joek, and a veri bad wun, at our ekspens; but with that eksepshon, amungst the reederz ov a paiper surkyulaiting thru the hoel ov Suthern India, from Ganjam tu Travancore, not wun woz found sufishentli atacht tu the kurent speling tu striek a bloe in its defens. Apart from edyukaishonists, our kuntrimen in India hav ashuuredli not kum tu our asistans in larj numberz, but I beleev them tu be tolerant and reezonabl, and, whiel I am afraid that we kan not look tu them for veri much help just at prezent, we need not feer that thai wil pruuv in eni wai or at eni tiem a hindrans.

The hoeps I hav eksprest for the fyutyur ov the speling reform muuvment in India ar baist on our ekspeeriensez in Madras, whair definit propaganda haz been atemted. Ov uther provinsez I kan not speek with the saim ashuurans, but, az kondishonz, so far az speling iz konsurnd, duu not mateeriali difer elswhair from thoez obtaining in Madras, thair iz no reezon tu dout that similar eforts wood leed tu iedentikal rezults.

Meenwhiel, in Madras the tiem seemz tu hav kum when a fresh advaans along uther lienz shood at leest be konsiderd. The kais haz been, az I hav sed, fairli wel prezented, and the aimz ov this Sosieti ar sufishentli noen tu, and ar jenerali apruuvd bi, edyukaited Indianz. It remainz tu sekyur the aktiv simpathiz ov the edyukaishonal authoritiz, tu indyus them tu alou—not, ov kors, tu rekwier—a simplified speling ov English tu be taut in the skuulz, and, in order tu maik the opshon a realiti, tu sankshon the yus ov the reformd speling in Guvernment egzaminaishonz.

Posibiliti ov Akshon.

The egzakt waiz and meenz tu be adopted in this kampain kan not with propriëti be enterd upon bi a European ofiser in Guvernment survis, but the loekal Guvernments ar far from inaksesibl, and Indian teecherz noe kwiet wel hou Guvernment kan best be aproecht. If Guvernment kan be konvinst that amungst thoez direktli and indirektli asoeshiaited with edyukaishon under them thair egzists a praktikal yunanimiti ov opinion that the inkonsistensiz ov English speling impoez veri seerius hardships on Indian children, and that the yus ov a simplified speling wood rezult in English being lurnt in India mor rapidli, with les efort and bi an inkreesing number ov pyupilz, I beleev that Guvernment wood be purfektli redi tu konsider with simpathi a propoezal tu sankshon the yus ov a reformd speling in the skuulz and egzaminaishonz. I am not without hoep that such an eksperiment mai be maid in India befor veri long. It wood be valyuabl in meni waiz, and wood doutles be wocht with interest in aul parts ov the Empier.

OFISHAL REKOGNISHON OV SPELING REFORM IN INDIA.

INDIAN PRIEM MINISTER'Z TRIBYUT.

INDIA iz riep for reform. Aulredi aul the sienz point tu a real awaikening. Sum tiem agoe, a briliant lektyur woz deliverd bi Mr. L. C. Hodgson, M.A., under the auspisez ov the Publik Lektyur Komiti, maintaind bi the Guvernment ov Travancore. It woz prezieded oever bi the then Deewan (Priem Minister), Mr.

P. Rajagopalacheri, C.I.E., hu, seing in the propozishon the promis ov a grait buun for India, orderd the lektyur tu be printed, and kopiz tu be distribyuted thruout the Stait.

We kan not imajin hou the kais kood be beter prezented than in Mr. Hodgson'z briliant litl pamflet. He haz, ov kors, a kleer kais, but a kleer kais duz not aulwaiz maik iether a good advokait or a redi konvert. "The oelder I groe," sed Max Müller, "the mor I feel konvinst that nuthing veksez peepl so much, and hardenz them in thair unbeleef and in their doged rezistans tu reformz, az undeniabl fakts and unaanserabl argyuments." But Mr. Hodgson prezents hiz fakts in aul thair unaanserabiliti with such freshnes and hyumor that he runz no dainjer ov konfurming unbeleeverz in thair unbeleef.

Good Amyunishon.

We kwoet wun or tuu pasijiz which seem speshali felisitus:—

Ov our prezent speling it woz sed bi Sam Weller that he didn't think it wurth whiel tu go thru so much tu lurn so litl. Ov simplified speling it mai be sed that bi going thru nuthing at aul yu lurn a grait deel.

Iz it tuu much tu hoep that a Department that duz so much tu provied fasilitiz for the edyukaishon ov children and tu maik thair burdenz liet wil konsider whether it kood not remuuv the inkyubus ov an outlandish and obfuskaiting orthografi?

Duu not moest ov us hav tu konsult a dikshonari nou and again—ov kors oenli tu verifie—but duz it aulwaiz konfurm our speling?

A fyu daiz agoe the etimolojikal argyument woz urjd bi a jentlman, himself a teecher, in a konversaishon he had with me on speling reform. "If yu aulter the speling yu wil no longer indikait the etimoloji ov English wurdz," he sed. "Then yu think the speling ov a wurd aut tu shoe its etimoloji?" I aaskt. "Undoutedli," he sed. "Veri wel," sed I; "let us taik the wurd 'feet.' Heer, in breef, iz its etimoloji: 'podes, fotiz, feti, fet, feet.' Tu be truu tu yur prinsiplz yu aut tu spel 'feet' 'fotiz,' or at leest 'feti.'" "Oh but," he replied, "tu spel it 'feti' wood be tuu far remuuvd from our prezent pronunsiaishon." "Presiesli," sed I; "and hou about 'laugh,' and 'choir,' and 'drachm,' and 'island,' and 'yacht,' and kountles uther wurdz? Iz not the speling ov them aulso 'tuu far remuuvd from our prezent pronunsiaishon'?"

I duu not denie that thair iz much seeming anomali in our langwij. For instans, if we sai "sing, sang, sung," whi not "bring, brang, brung"; if "teach, taught," whi not "preach, praught"? But thair iz a fundamental diferens between anomaliz ov langwij and anomaliz ov speling. Langwij mai hav been evolvd, but woz surtinli not maid, bi man; its formz ar the rezult ov chainjez braut about bi lauz on the operaishon ov which man haz litl inflooens. The lauz bi which a primitiv *a* apeerz in the Germanic langwij az *o*, *e.g.* Latin *mater*, O.E. *moder*, or bi which primitiv *t* apeerz az *th*, az in Latin *tres*, Eng. "three," Latin *tu*, O.E. *thu* ("thou") wer not the rezult ov a rezoluushon paast at a meeting ov the ainshent Germanic foek held in thair priemeeval forest, but wer, in haknid fraiz, duu tu surkumstansez oever which thai had no kontroel. It iz kwiet diferent with speling. From the urliest piktyur rieting tu the laitest produkshon ov the twentiëth senturi pres the reprezentaishon ov spoeken soundz bi meenz ov riten simbolz haz been the rezult ov the konshus and deliberait eksersiez ov man'z oen kreaitiv pouerz. In uther wurdz, langwij iz kontroeld bi lauz: orthografi iz a mater ov konvenshon. Man must obai the former; he iz free tu aulter the later.

NOETS AND NYUZ.

The membership ov the Sosieti nou numberz 2497.

Memberz and Pres Korespondens.

Wun ov the waiz in which real help kan be renderd bi our memberz iz bi meenz ov korespondens in the pres. At prezent the kampain must be persyud mor wairili than in normal tiemz. Stil editorz mai be wuud if yu but tuch them on the topikal vain, and Simplified Speling, being a living kwestion, lendz itself eezili tu topikal treetment. Sum ov our memberz hav helpt us loiali in this respekt, and ov theez we mai speshali menshon Mr. Henry Drummond, Hettonle-Hole, Mr. Andrew Brodrick, and Mr. William Shield, boeth ov Liverpool.

The Egzyuberans ov Speling Reformerz.

We kwoet an outsied tribyut tu the vijilans ov our memberz. The "Yorkshire Post" sez: "Our impreshon iz that the Simplified Speling Sosieti iz aulmoest the oenli gruup ov reformerz which haz shoen no lesening ov efort dyuring the wor . . . In fakt it haz kum tu be understood that if the subjekt ov speling reform woz aksidentali menshond or eeven obleekli refurd tu in theez kolumz, a disertaishon on the klaimz ov the S.S.S. hung upon that peg wood reech us in dyu kors."

Lektyur tu the Sesame Klub.

Mis Ethel Gavin laast munth deliverd a delietful lektyur on "Speling Reform" tu the memberz ov the Sesame Klub. The lektyur woz a kleer and vigorus ekspozishon, from the point ov vyu ov the teecher hu iz ankshus that the nolej she handz on tu her pyupilz shal be the best posibl. The audiëns wer simpathetik, and an interesting diskushon foloed.

A nyu difikulti woz braut forwerd bi wun speeker, houever. "If simplified speling wer introdyust," she sed doutfuli, "wood 'culture' be spelt with a *k*?"

Kwips and Jests.

Eeven in theez gluumi tiemz our kontemporari the "Globe" haz lost nun ov its nokturnal sprietlines. English speling iz a faivorit but for its wit. We kwoet the foloing from reesent isyuz:—

> (On a surtin eksploit bi the "Prinz Eitel Friedrich") "Americanz with thair wel noen leeningz tu fonetik speling wil nou be dispoezd tordz the rendering 'frye-tfulnes.'"
>
> "Przemysl for the laast fyu daiz mai be sed tu hav held the wurld spel-bound."
>
> "Mr. James Douglas in a reesent artikl tauks about '*returning Germany's lead*.' That iz the wurst ov our English speling; the hoel thing dependz on whether the laast wurd riemz with 'feed' or with 'fed.'"

American Kolejez and Speling Reform.

The American Simplified Speling Bord kroniklz an important advaans. Sum seventi Yunivursitiz, kolejez, and normal skuulz hav paast rezoluushonz endorsing the muuvment for the ameelioraishon ov English speling and adopting sum ov the simplified formz for yus in ofishal korespondens and publikaishonz or ofishali permiting its yus bi styudents in thair riten wurk. Amung theez ar the Stait Yunivursitiz ov Missouri and Michigan, the Yunivursiti ov Illinois with its siks thouzand styudents, and the larj provinshal Normal Kolej ov Nova Scotia. We hartili kongratyulait our American frendz on the proegres thai ar maiking.

Sujested Akshon bi the Bord.

Wuns a furm footing iz gaind at the top it shood be eezi tu wurk doun tu the loër staijez ov edyukaishon. The foloing iz the akshon sujested for the fakulti bi the Bord :—

1. *Adopt*, for use in the official publications and correspondence of your institution, the simpler and shorter of alternative spellings authorized by whatever dictionary (or dictionaries) your institution consults as its authority. This will mean, for example, using "center," not "centre"; "color," not "colour"; "gram," not "gramme"; "license," not "licence"; "maneuver," not "manœuvre"; "medieval," not "mediæval"; "quartet," not "quartette"; "traveler," not "traveller"; ets.

2. *Adopt*, for use in official publications and correspondence, the Twelve Words adopted by the National Education Association — viz., "program, catalog, decalog, prolog, demagog, pedagog, tho, altho, thoro, thorofare, thru, thruout."

3. *Allow* students who may wish to do so to use in their written work any spellings recommended by a recognized body of scholars and given vocabulary place in any of the standard dictionaries (Webster's, the Century, the Standard), such as "abandond, curv, doctrin, dropt, foren, harth, helth, fotograf, shal, tung, wil," ets. Words indicated thus: *s.* or *S.S.* (recommended by the Simplified Speling Bord); *p.* (recommended by the American Philological Association); *Phil. Soc.* (recommended by the Philological Society, London, and the American Philological Association); *Ref. Sp.* (reformed spelling); ets.

Note.—Action by the faculty is not intended to control the usage of individual members, altho such personal use is greatly to be desired.

India'z Klaim.

Lord Bryce'z splendid wurdz deliverd at a lektyur on the Indian armi taik on a nyu and definit meening when red in the liet ov Prof. Mark Hunter'z artikl on India and speling reform. Lord Bryce sed, "It iz wun ov the redeeming insidents ov a tiem so ful ov soroe that this spirit ov atachment shood be shoen bi the peepl, prinsez, and truups ov India tu the British Empier and its hed. It shoez that the peepl ov India rekogniez that the fyutyur haz in stor for them and for us a kloeser konekshon than haz ever egzisted befor, baist on the endyurans ov komon sufering and devoeshon tu a komon kauz. We mai reezonabli hoep that our relaishonz tu India wil rest on a shuurer foundaishon ov myutyual respekt and afekshon than woz posibl befor."

The Buun ov a Simpler Speling.

Shuurli it iz obvius that the heritij ov a komon tung wil forj the link stil kloeser. Simplifie our speling, and yu maik the printed English paij a hundred tiemz kleerer and simpler tu the Indian styudent. India kan klaim, not az a faivor but az a riet, that we shood poot intu her handz the kee that wil unlok tu her milionz the trezher-houzez ov the West.

Introdyusing the Metrik Sistem.

"The praktikal aplikaishon ov the 'Surmon on the Mount,'" sed a keen thinker the uther dai, "haz been delaid thouzandz ov yeerz bi the peepl hu subskriebd tu its doktrinz but did not think them praktikabl. Theez heererz ov the wurd ar far mor dainjerus than the peepl hu refyuz tu listen at aul."

It must be konfest that in the feeld ov speling reform thair ar meni such suporterz. Impraktikabl—hou ofen haz this wurd been bandid about bi our opoenents! And yet whot duz it meen? Yu kan not sai whether a skeem iz impraktikabl or not til yu hav tried it. "Ah! but hou set in moeshon the masheeneri for such an atemt?" sai the timorus.

Forsing ov the Metrik Sistem.

We giv an egzaampl ov hou similar, if smauler, reformz mai be set on foot. On Janyuari 1, 1915, kaim intu fors the nyu British Pharmacopœia, the ofishal wurk bi meenz ov which British doktorz preskrieb, and farmasists dispens, thair medsinz. It iz noetwurthi, amungst uther chainjez, in that the oeld-fashond impeerial method ov rekoning bi poundz, ounsez, dramz, grainz, ets., haz been syuperseeded bi the metrik sistem, with its gramz, sentigramz, ets.

For mezherz ov kapasiti the milileeter haz been taiken for the standerd in preferens tu the kyubik sentimeeter, which iz jenerali emploid in kemikal laboratoriz. The yardz and inshez hav aulso disapeerd, and meeterz and milimeeterz hav taiken thair plais.

The oeld Fahrenheit thermometer haz been dispenst with, and the Centigrade taiken its plais.

Such a chainj involvz upon the kemist the nesesiti ov biing fresh waits and ov familiariezing himself with a fresh progresiv and siëntifik method ov kalkyulaishon. Theez ar byuroekratik methodz; but iz not edyukaishon bekuming mor and mor byuroekratik everi dai?

Brugge and Brügge.

Mr. H. O. Coleman riets from 35 Hogarth Hill, Golder's Green, N.W.:—"Pleez alou me a smaul korekshon—ov sum importans in vyu ov the majisteereal atityud I adopted. I did not riet 'Brügge' (pronounst mor liek 'Brugge'), but 'Brugge' (pronounst mor liek 'Brügge'). 'Brugge' iz the Flemish speling and 'Brügge' the German aproksimaitli fonetik reprezentaishon."

Nyu Memberz.

Lief Member.

Mr. Lewis Thompson, Roseland, Bridgwater.

Anyual Memberz.

Laidi Jenny Rose, Ashdown, Carew Road, Northwood.

Mrz. B. A. Levinson, Newfield, Green Lane, Northwood.
Arnold Priestman, 3 Walmer Villas, Bradford.
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PRES KUTINGZ.

Febrooari and March.

LETERZ STRONGLI ADVOKAITING SPELING REFORM wer noeted in : **Birkenhead and Cheshire Advertiser** (tuu leterz), **Birkenhead News, Commercial Review, Contractors' Record** (tuu leterz), **Education, Guernsey Star, Liverpool Weekly Post, Newcastle Weekly Chronicle, Pitman's Journal** (tuu leterz), **Sheffield Daily Independent** (thre leterz), **Western Morning News, Yorkshire Post.**

PARAGRAAFS KONSURNING THE PROEGRES OV THE AMERICAN SPELING BORD wer reprodyust in : **Daily Chronicle, Globe, Guernsey Star, Largs and Millport Weekly News, Newcastle Chronicle, Standard, Times, Westminster Gazette.**

ARTIKLZ STRONGLI ADVOKAITING SPELING REFORM apeerd in : **Daily Mail, Dundee Advertiser, Education, Educational Review, Educational Times, Empire** (India), **Largs and Millport Weekly News, Leicester Post, Madras Mail, Morning Post** (India), **Pitman's Journal, Pitman's Yearbook and Diary, Standard** (India), **Yorkshire Observer.**

LEKTYURZ ON SIMPLIFIED SPELING wer reported and diskust in the foloing paiperz :—**Commercial Education, Northern Daily Mail, Yorkshire Observer.**

REPORTS OV THE EDYUKAISHONAL KONFERENS with referens tu this Sosieti apeerd in : **Educational Times, Journal of Education, Schoolmistress, School World.**

SPESHAL ARTIKLZ deeling with the deth ov Prinsipal Sur James Donaldson and hiz advokasi ov Reformd Speling apeerd in : **Aberdeen Journal, Dundee Advertiser, Dundee Evening Telegraph, Liverpool Evening Express, School Government Chronicle, Schoolmaster, St. Andrews Citizen.**

BREEF REFERENSEZ TU REFORMD SPELING wer obzurvd in : **Berkshire Chronicle, Bristol Times, Bulawayo Chronicle, Daily Chronicle, Dublin Express, Dundee Advertiser, Freeman's Journal, Glasgow Evening Times, Leicester Daily Post, Municipal Journal, Newspaper World, Northern Daily Telegraph, Scotsman, Sheffield Independent, Teachers' World, Times, Yorkshire Evening Post.**

EDITORIAL NOET.

IT haz been desieded tu publish THE PIONEER everi uther munth until pees iz restord. The Editor'z adres iz 45 Ladbroke Grove, London, W.

THE PIONEER iz sent graitis tu aul Memberz ov the Simplified Speling Sosieti. The anyual subskripshon for Asoeshiait Memberz iz a minimum ov wun shiling, that for Aktiv Memberz a minimum ov fiev shilingz. Mor muni meenz mor pouer tu kari on the kampain.

Memberz ar urjd tu aplie for leeflets seting forth the aimz ov the Sosieti. Theez and aul uther informaishon wil be gladli sent bi the Sekretari ov the Simplified Speling Sosieti, 44 Great Russell Street, London, W.C.

OUTLINE SCHEME FOR NEW READERS

The same sound is always represented by the same letter or letters eni, jepardi, greev, leep (*not* any, jeopardy, grieve, leap).

The digraphs *ee*, *ie*, *oe*, *uu* may be reduced before another vowel: seing, fliing, going, juel (jewel).

Letters not pronounced are not written, and a consonant is not doubled to indicate a short vowel: dout, lam, aktiv, leter, nee *not* doubt, lamb, active, letter, knee).

Wherever the *z* sound (as distinguished from the *s*) is heard it is written: tiez, praiz (*not* ties, praise).

Q and *x* are not used.

VOWEL SOUNDS.

a: h**a**t, gl**a**d.

e: m**e**ni, pl**e**zh**e**r (*not* many, pleasure).
i: w**i**men, b**i**zi (*not* women, busy).
o: k**o**t, h**o**t.
u: b**u**t, br**u**ther (*not* brother).
oo: b**oo**k, p**oo**t (*not* put).

ai: gr**ai**t, k**ai**r (*not* great, care).
***aa:** r**aa**ther, h**aa**f (*not* rather, half).
au: **au**l (*not* all, awl).
ee: **ee**ch, rese**ee**v (*not* each, receive).
ie: r**ie**t, f**ie**r (*not* right, fire).
oe: l**oe**, p**oe**st (*not* low, post).
uu: b**uu**n, tr**uu** (*not* boon, true).
yu: t**yu**n, **yu**loji (*not* tune, eulogy).

* Only one **a** is used before **r: arm, kar,** &c.

In considering the scheme remember that **no new letters are introduced,** though in English we have only **23** letters for representing over **40** sounds.

THE COMMERCIAL ADVANTAGES OF AN INTELLIGENT SPELLING.

By ANDREW BRODRICK,

Director of Messrs. J. Lionel Barker & Co., of Liverpool and London, South American Merchants and Bankers.

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